

## Summary



### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:

#### To operate your PITs safely

##### You must

##### General operations

Protect employees around PITs  
WAC 296-863-40005 .....400-3

Operate PITs safely  
WAC 296-863-40010 .....400-4

Make sure PIT loads are carried safely  
WAC 296-863-40015 .....400-5

Meet these requirements when the operator leaves the normal operating position  
WAC 296-863-40020 .....400-6

Meet these requirements when operating near railroad tracks  
WAC 296-863-40025 .....400-6

##### Special operations

Meet this requirement when using motorized hand trucks  
WAC 296-863-40030 .....400-7

Meet these requirements when using elevators  
WAC 296-863-40035 .....400-7

Meet these requirements when using dockboards (bridge plates)  
WAC 296-863-40040 .....400-8



# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Summary

Meet these requirements when loading or unloading railroad cars with a PIT  
WAC 296-863-40045 ..... 400-9

Meet these requirements when loading or unloading highway trucks with  
PITs  
WAC 296-863-40050 ..... 400-10

### Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fueled PITs

Meet these additional requirements when operating liquefied petroleum gas  
(LPG) fueled PITs  
WAC 296-863-40055 ..... 400-11

### Personnel lifting

Make sure work platforms and PITs used to lift people meet these  
requirements  
WAC 296-863-40060 ..... 400-12

Operate PITs using elevated work platforms safely  
WAC 296-863-40065 ..... 400-13



### WAC 296-863-40005

#### Protect employees around PITs

##### You must

- Make sure operators use restraint devices, such as seatbelts or lap-bars, when they are provided on the PIT.
- Make sure you don't allow people:
  - Under the elevated part of any PIT, whether it's loaded or empty
  - To put any part of their body between the uprights of the mast  
**or**
  - Outside the running lines of the PIT.
- Make sure you don't allow unauthorized people to ride on PITs.
- Make sure people riding on PITs have a safe place to ride.
- Make sure you don't allow stunt driving or horseplay.
- Make sure PITs aren't driven up to anyone in front of a bench or other fixed object.
- Make sure access to fire aisles, stairways, and fire equipment is kept clear.
- Make sure there's sufficient headroom under overhead installations such as lights, pipes, and sprinkler systems to safely operate PITs.



##### Reference:

- PIT operations may cause the airborne concentration levels of carbon monoxide gas to increase. You have to keep the concentration levels below the levels specified in Chapter 296-841 WAC, Respiratory Hazards.

# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Rule

**WAC 296-863-40010**

### Operate PITs safely

#### You must

- Operate PITs according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure PIT operators do all of the following:
  - Obey all traffic regulations, including authorized workplace speed limits.
  - Yield the right of way to ambulances, fire trucks, and other vehicles in emergency situations.
  - Keep a safe distance of approximately 3 truck lengths from the PIT ahead.
  - Look in the direction they're going and keep a clear view of their path of travel.
  - Slow down and sound the horn at cross aisles and other locations where vision is obstructed.
  - Don't pass other PITs traveling in the same direction at intersections, blind spots, or other dangerous locations.
  - Keep a safe distance from the edge of ramps or platforms while on any of the following:
    - Elevated docks
    - Elevated platforms
    - Freight cars.
- Make sure operators keep PITs under control at all times, including doing all of the following:
  - Drive at a speed that allows the PIT to be stopped safely
  - Drive more slowly on wet or slippery floors
  - Reduce speed to a safe level while turning
  - Avoid driving over loose objects.



### WAC 296-863-40015

#### Make sure PIT loads are carried safely

##### You must

- 1) Make sure loads are stable, safe and within the rated load capacity of the PIT.
- 2) Do both of the following when picking up a load:
  - Place the load engaging means under the load as far as possible.
  - Tilt the mast carefully backwards to stabilize the load.
- 3) Make sure not to tilt the load engaging means forward when it's elevated unless:
  - Picking up a load
  - or**
  - Depositing a load on a rack or stack.
- 4) Do both of the following when traveling with a load:
  - Keep the load trailing if it obstructs the operator's forward view.
  - Travel with the load upslope when climbing or descending slopes of more than 10 percent.
- 5) Do both of the following when climbing a slope:
  - Tilt the load and load engagement means backwards if necessary to stabilize the load
  - and**
  - Raise the load and load engagement means only as far as necessary to clear the surface.
- 6) Make sure PITS with attachments are operated as partially loaded trucks, even if they're **not** carrying a load.

# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Rule

### WAC 296-863-40020

#### Meet these requirements when the operator leaves the normal operating position

##### You must

- Make sure operators do the following when getting off the PIT:
  - Fully lower the load engaging means
  - Neutralize the controls
  - Set the brakes.
- Make sure operators do the following when leaving a PIT unattended:
  - Fully lower the load engaging means
  - Neutralize the controls
  - Shut off power
  - Set the brakes
  - Block the wheels, if parked on an incline.



##### Note:

- A PIT is unattended when the operator:
  - Is more than 25 feet away**or**
  - Can't see the PIT.

### WAC 296-863-40025

#### Meet these requirements when operating near railroad tracks

##### You must

- Make sure PITs are driven diagonally across railroad tracks, whenever possible.
- Make sure PITs are parked 8 feet 6 inches or more from the center of any railroad tracks.



### WAC 296-863-40030

#### Meet this requirement when using motorized hand trucks

##### You must

- Make sure motorized hand trucks enter elevators and other confining areas with the load end forward.

### WAC 296-863-40035

#### Meet these requirements when using elevators

##### You must

- Do both of the following when driving PITs onto an elevator:
  - Approach slowly
  - Enter the elevator squarely after the elevator car is leveled.
- Do all the following after the PIT is positioned on the elevator:
  - Neutralize the controls
  - Shut off the power
  - Set the brakes.

# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Rule

**WAC 296-863-40040**

**Meet these requirements when using dockboards (bridge plates)**

### You must

- Make sure dockboards aren't overloaded:
  - Make sure they're strong enough to carry the load imposed on them.
  - Make sure loads don't exceed the dockboard's rated capacity.
- Do the following when using dockboards:
  - Drive slowly and carefully over dockboards.
  - Properly secure dockboards before driving on them.
- Make sure powered dockboards meet the design and construction requirements of U.S. Department of Commerce Commercial Standard CS 202-56 (1961) Industrial Lifts and Hinged Loading Ramps.
- Do the following when using portable dockboards:
  - Use anchors or other devices that will prevent slipping.
  - Make sure they have handholds or other effective means for safe handling.





### WAC 296-863-40045

#### Meet these requirements when loading or unloading railroad cars with a PIT

##### You must

- Check the railroad car flooring for breaks or weakness before driving on it.
- Set the brakes and use wheel stops or other recognized positive protection to keep railcars from moving:
  - During loading or unloading operations
  - or**
  - While dockboards (bridge plates) are in position.
- Meet these requirements when using PITs to open or close freight car doors:
  - The PIT has to have an approved device specifically designed to open and close doors.
  - The device has to be designed so that force will be applied to the door parallel to door travel.
  - The PIT operator has to be trained to use the device and have full view of the operation.
  - People must be kept clear while the door is being moved.

# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Rule

### WAC 296-863-40050

#### Meet these requirements when loading or unloading highway trucks with PITs

##### You must

- Check the truck or trailer flooring for breaks or weakness before driving on it.
- Prevent movement of trucks or trailers during loading or unloading by:
  - Setting the brakes
  - and**
  - Chocking or blocking the wheels.



##### Exemptions:

- You can use mechanical means instead of wheel chocks or blocks to secure the trailer to the loading dock.
- Wheel chocks or blocks aren't required when:
  - The mechanical means prevents the trailer from moving away from the dock.
  - The mechanical equipment is used and maintained as recommended by the manufacturer.
  - Damaged mechanical equipment is immediately removed from service.



##### Note:

- You may need to use fixed jacks to keep a semi-trailer that's not coupled to a tractor from up ending during loading or unloading.



### WAC 296-863-40055

#### Meet these additional requirements when operating liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fueled PITs

##### You must

- Make sure you don't park PITs near:
  - Sources of heat, open flames, or similar ignition sources**or**
  - Open pits, such as service pits, that don't have adequate ventilation.
- Make sure PITs stored inside a garage don't have:
  - A leak in the fuel system
  - Fuel containers filled beyond the maximum filling capacity.



##### Reference:

- See WAC 296-24-47505(12), Storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gases, for maximum filling capacities.

# Operations

WAC 296-863-400

## Rule

### WAC 296-863-40060

#### Make sure work platforms and PITs used to lift people meet these requirements

##### You must

- Make sure work platforms:
  - Are securely fastened to the lifting carriage or forks
  - Have standard guardrails and toeboards on all sides.
- Guard the area between the platform and the PIT mast to prevent employee contact with chains or other shear points.
- Make sure PITs used to elevate a work platform have a lift mechanism that can't drop faster than 135 feet per minute in the event of a system failure.
- Make sure the lifting carriage or forks are prevented from tilting.



##### Note:

- Examples of how this may be accomplished are the use of:
  - A control lever that prevents the inadvertent movement**or**
  - Use of a strap or other device to hold the control lever in position.

##### You must

- Make sure PITs with controls (vertical only, or horizontal and vertical) that can be elevated with the lifting carriage or forks, have a way for people on the platform to shut off power to the PIT.



##### Note:

- You can find the minimum requirements for standard railings of various types of construction in WAC 296-24-75011, Railings, toeboards and cover specifications.



### WAC 296-863-40065

### Operate PITs using elevated work platforms safely

#### You must

- Make sure the PIT operator:
  - Is attending the lift equipment when workers are on the platform
  - Is in the normal operating position while raising or lowering the platform.



#### Note:

- A PIT is unattended when the operator:
  - Is more than 25 feet away

**or**

  - Can't see the PIT.

#### You must

- Make sure the operator does **not** move the PIT from one point to another while workers are on the platform.
  - The operator may inch or maneuver the PIT at very low speed with workers on the platform.

# Notes

---